NSC 346

United Jewish Federation of [illegible]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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June 12, 1981

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

With its survival directly threatened, Israel had the legal right and moral obligation to deny Iraq's dictator the capacity to bring about another holocaust. Against a neighbor that had recently proved its willingness to commit aggression, Israel used its planes for the precise purpose for which they were purchased: self defense.

The surprise of bombing of the nuclear reactor caught the world off guard. Understandably, world reaction has been at first thought to condemn the act, but on closer examination, Israel has done the world a favor. In making this preemptive strike, the world and in particular the Middle East, has been saved from the threat and potential blackmail of a nuclear threat. Once again Israel has met a problem head on and has taken an action to protect its destiny and security.

If Israel's nuclear nonproliferation strike is right and proper, then would it not be equally moral for an aggressor to attack suspected nuclear weapons in Israel? The answer is no: Israel, its people so often threatened with extermination, is not threatening to incinerate the Arab world. No nation has cause to fear an atomic attack from Israel any more than one from the United States. Iraq, on the other hand, has been proud of its "state of war" with Israel and has repeatedly rejected any armistice sought by Israel with her neighbors.

Weapons whose purpose is to deter is not weaponry whose purpose is to terrorize: there is a huge moral difference.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Rosenberg
President

cc- Sec Haig

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